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Community *notes*

New Feature for Tell HoCo

Howard County announces that a lost pet reporting feature has been added to the popular "Tell HoCo" mobile app and website module.

"Tell HoCo" allows Howard County residents and visitors to report non-emergency problems, such as potholes, graffiti, downed tree limbs and traffic signal issues, to the appropriate county government representative 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. With the app, citizens can use their smart phones to snap a photo, send a report and track its progress.

The "Tell HoCo" app can be downloaded for free from the Apple Store or from Google play. After registering, users also can make anonymous reports if they prefer. Additionally, links to the web version of "Tell HoCo" are prominently displayed on the Howard County Government website.

Once issues are identified, the person making the report receives updates on its progress. Users also can check to see what issues have been reported in their communities. The "Tell HoCo" app can be downloaded via [iTunes](#) or [Google Play](#).

Celebrate Nature This Sunday

The Nature Place outdoor exploration area at the Robinson Nature Center opens Sunday, September 20 at 12:00 p.m. This event is part of [RNC's 4th Anniversary Open House](#). The Nature Place is designed to provide an area of nature exploration, discovery and adventure for children. The space features a building area, nature art area, music and movement area, large climbing log, log steppers, and underground tunnel slide. It also includes original wooden animal carvings by Columbia artist Evelyn Mogren.

Greeting

On this last weekend of summer, community events are in abundance. We have learned that some of our neighbors do not have food in abundance. I hope that you will help CAC help Howard County residents who are in need (page 3). Thanks!

Smaykay

ManneqART Reception

Town Center Community Association offers an afternoon of excitement through live entertainment and wearable art by [ManneqART](#) on Sunday, September 20, 3:00 – 5:00 p.m. at Historic Oakland. This free event gives the community an opportunity to see the creativity and audacious work of designers in apparel, makeup and hair. A select collection of this year's entries in the ManneqART challenge will be on display. Come and see art that is designed to be worn on the human form. You will be amazed!

LOVE, LOSS and WHAT I WORE!

Arts Collective, Howard Community College's student and community performance organization, celebrates its 21st Season by contributing in a big way to this season's Horowitz Center theme: Year Of the Woman by producing very special readings of Nora and Delia Ephron's play **LOVE, LOSS and WHAT I WORE** on October 2 – 18, 2015, HCC's Horowitz Center Studio Theatre. A brilliant "clothesline" of monologues and ensemble pieces about women and their individual and common journeys, which will feature many familiar faces of Howard County (including mine next Friday night)! Visit the [website](#) for more information and to purchase your tickets.

Highland Day 2015

The Greater Highland Crossroads Association invites you and your family to Highland Day on Saturday, October 3, 2015 from 11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. for an old-time community festival that brings together neighbors and new friends to enjoy the activities and varied offerings of local merchants, exhibitors, and artisans. Enjoy a focus on family fun with live entertainment, a variety of foods and beverages, a micro-brew beer garden, promos from Heart of Highland merchants, kids' games and activities, old-fashioned hayrides, a Halloween costume parade and more. Come to the Crossroads (intersection of Routes 216 & 108) and enjoy the town of Highland! Click [here](#) for more information.

The Columbia Orchestra

The Columbia Orchestra invites you to enjoy a season of music that is "Bold, Engaging and Inspiring"! Featuring performances of Shostakovich's Fifth Symphony (October 10), Copeland & Elgar (December 5), Rossini & Beethoven (January 30), the ever popular Young People's Concerts (February 20) and more. Don't forget that chamber concerts and open rehearsals are free. Visit the [website](#) for details and to purchase your season tickets.

Giving Food to Our Young Ones

Running Brook Elementary School has joined with a national non-profit organization, [Blessings in a Backpack](#), to provide food for students who are in need nutritious foods on weekends. The program works to support the more than 62% of elementary students in America who qualify for the free and reduced meal program. Enhanced reading skills, positive behavior, improved health and increased attendance have all been attributed benefits of Blessings in a Backpack.

Each Friday during the school year, Running Brook Elementary School students who are supported by the Blessings in a Backpack program are given food to ensure they do not go hungry over the weekend. The goal is to support as many as forty Running Brook Elementary School students through the program. The cost to feed one child for thirty eight weeks is \$100. Backpacks include easy-to-prepare, shelf stable food items (juice boxes, mac and cheese, fruit snacks and oatmeal). Donations of any amount are appreciated. Donations will be valuable in the effort to reach the overall goal of \$4,000.

One hundred percent of donations purchases food for the children. Donations can be made [online](#). Be sure to check the "other" box in the dropdown section of the "Designation" section and type Running Brook Elementary School. Thank you for your support!

Housing Matters Fair

Howard County's Department of Housing and Community Development will host its 4th annual "Housing Matters" Mini-Fair this Saturday, September 19 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in the Howard County Public School Conference Center at the Ascend One Building, 8930 Stanford Boulevard in Columbia.

This FREE event will showcase everything individuals and families need to know about homeownership, home improvements and renter and landlord rights and responsibilities. The Mini-Fair will feature FREE credit checks and consultations, and 15 educational sessions, such as: *Managing Your Money*; *Understanding Your Credit from a Lender's Perspective*; *How to Buy Your First Home*; and *Pitfalls to Avoid When Buying a Home*.

Mini-Fair attendees will have the opportunity to speak with realtors, brokers, lenders and bankers. Among the organizations participating are: Community Action Council of Howard County, Inc.; the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development; Keller Williams; KLR Real Estate; the Maryland Insurance Administration; Pillar to Post: Home Inspectors; RE/MAX; 1st Mariner Mortgage; The Columbia Bank; Movement Mortgage; and Guidewell Financial Solutions. County personnel also will be available to answer questions about the communities, programs and services that make Howard County such a great place to live.

The event will offer FREE on-site childcare for youth, ages three and up, courtesy of the County's Department of Recreation & Parks and door prize drawings at 12:45 p.m. For more information about the "Housing Matters" Mini-Fair, visit the [webpage](#).

Movie Under the Stars

Town Center Community Association at Historic Oakland hosts an outdoor movie, 'Bears' under the big tent on Thursday, October 1, 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. A production of DisneyNature, this movie captures the life of Alaskan bear cubs and is full of action and suspense. The event is free and includes light refreshments. Bring your own chairs, blankets and even dinner, if you wish. Advanced registration is required. To register visit www.columbiatowncenter.org.

It's A British Invasion... It promises to be fun!

Columbia Festival of the Arts' Fall Festival is two weeks away! Find a blend of artists and stories with British ties: Charles Dickens' great-great-grandson performing *Great Expectations*, the Columbia Orchestra will join Classic Albums Live to present *Sgt. Peppers Lonely Hearts Club Band*, a performance of the iconic Beatles album in its entirety, followed by a late night showing of *Too Much Light Makes the Baby Go Blind* by acclaimed experimental theatre ensemble The Neo-Futurists.

Purchase your tickets today [online](#) through the Festival's website. See you October 2-4!

Sounds Like Fun

The Great Pumpkin Adventure!

Attention parents! Join Terrapin Adventures on October 10 or 11 for its premier fall program for kids - the Great Pumpkin Adventure. The kids will have a blast painting their own pumpkin or ghost before climbing, swinging, and zipping their way through our Terrapin Explorer kids' course. Oh yea! And there will be candy, of course!

Harmony & Hops sheds a new, "natural" light on music

Jazz tunes spread across a meadow. A solo soprano's aria drifts through the trees. Electronic music fills the dome of a starlit planetarium. A trio of flute and strings perform while the audience enjoys local craft brews. Where are these performances happening? It turns out, they are all happening in one place – the Robinson Nature Center – and on one night: Friday September, 25.

"Harmony & Hops", a collaboration between the Candlelight Concert Society and the Robinson Nature Center, was created to spotlight both the top-notch chamber music which Candlelight Concert Society has presented for four decades, and the dynamic facility which celebrates its fourth anniversary this September. In this unique event, both music and nature are on full display.

Seth Kibel and members of the Bay Jazz project will kick the evening off on the front patio near the nature center's native plant gardens. The audience will rotate through three additional venues where they will hear soprano Aundi Moore perform opera and jazz vocals from the balcony; classical works performed by the Meridian Ensemble in the auditorium, and – in the Center's planetarium space – visitors will enjoy an electronic composition, set to visuals of celestial bodies in outer space projected on the dome.

Between concerts, brews from Manor Hill Brewing company and Jailbreak Brewing company – two Howard County local establishments – will be available. Local food truck, Upslidedown Dave will also be on-site.

The program takes place from 6:30 to 9:30 PM at the Robinson Nature Center, located at 6692 Cedar Lane in Columbia, MD. Tickets are \$40, available [online](#) or call 410-997-2324.

Click [here](#) to find out more about the Candlelight Concert Society. For more about Robinson Nature Center, visit the [website](#).

Much Ado About Nothing Opens Tomorrow

Shakespeare's beloved comedy of feisty, verbally combative lovers will be performed September 18 - October 11. Visit the Chesapeake Shakespeare Company's [website](#) for production information and to purchase tickets.

Walk or Run to Help the Howard County Food Bank

Support the Howard County Food Bank with your participation in the Glen Mar Family 5K and 1 Mile Walk on Saturday, October 3, 9:00 a.m. at 4701 New Cut Road, Ellicott City. Participate as an individual, family or team in the 5K or 1 Mile Walk. Click [here](#) to register. Please bring a non-perishable food item to be donated to the Howard County Food Bank.

Can't attend the 5K? Please consider participating on the [online silent auction](#). The bidding is open until Monday, September 21. Lots of fun items remain; they await your bid!

Telling Global Stories

Join Walters Art Museum for a talk with renowned curators and museum professionals who have undertaken innovative displays in response to new ideas on "globalized" art history. What were the opportunities and pitfalls of reinstalling collections that reflect this theme? How can the Walters use its displays to reflect a broader cultural context?

Panelists: Tim Barringer, Paul Mellon Professor of the History of Art, Yale University; Amelia Peck, Marica F. Vilcek Curator, American Wing, and Manager, Henry R. Luce Center for the Study of American Art, The Metropolitan Museum of Art; Sara Devine, Manager of Audience Engagement and Interpretive Materials, Brooklyn Museum; and Alex Kalman, Co-founder, Mmuseumm, New York. This event is free, open to the public and you may register [online](#).

Before the talk, the Walters would like your thoughts and questions on the topic. Tag your responses with #TellingGlobalStories on social media and [follow the conversation](#). Walters team members will live tweet the talk; [follow them on Twitter](#).



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